REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reexamination of the captioned application is respectfully requested.

A. SUMMARY OF THIS AMENDMENT

By the current amendment, Applicants basically:

1. Amend claim 6.
2. Amend the specification to expressly recite limitations of amended independent claim 6 (the amendatory limitations being supported by the disclosure including but not limited to Fig. 3).
3. Cancel claim 13 without prejudice or disclaimer.
4. Respectfully traverse all prior art rejections.

B. PATENTABILITY OF THE CLAIMS

Claims 3, 6-7 and 9 stand rejected under 35 USC 1013(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,336,413 to Tourneux in view of DE 19521098 to Bonn. Claims 8 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 1013(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 4,336,413 to Tourneux in view of DE 19521098 to Bonn and further in view of U.S. Patent 4,621,472 to Kloke. All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

Amended independent claim 6 now requires a feature of "the side walls of the drain channel of the first side frame portion and the projection of the second side frame portion are provided with a difference in height between the side walls and the projection to allow the drain channel of one of two adjacent solar cell units to project under the second side frame portion of the other solar unit beyond the projection when a plurality of the solar cell units are mounted on the plane surface of the oblique roof in parallel to a roof ridge or an eave on the oblique roof so that the first side frame portion of one of two adjacent solar cell units and the second frame portion of the other solar cell unit are opposed to each other with a gap being defined therebetween, and the drain channel

provided along the first side frame portion of the one unit is located below the gap". The amendatory language is clearly supported by Fig. 3 of the specification.

The structure of independent claim 6 allows installation of a plurality of the solar cell units with a gap therebetween on the oblique roof, while securely receiving rainwater intruding into the gap between the adjacent solar cell units by the drain channel and preventing a base surface of the roof from getting wet due to the rainwater. As a result, the solar cell units can easily be installed on the oblique roof without concern of a dimensional difference between the size of an installation region and the total size of the solar cell units installed on the installation region.

Neither the structure of independent claim 6 nor its favorable effects are taught, suggested, or obtained by any applied reference including but not limited to Tourneux (U.S. Patent 4,336,413).

C. MISCELLANEOUS

All prior art rejections are respectfully traversed. A formal indication of allowability is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge the undersigned's deposit account #14-1140 in whatever amount is necessary for entry of these papers and the continued pendency of the captioned application.

Should the Examiner feel that an interview with the undersigned would facilitate allowance of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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